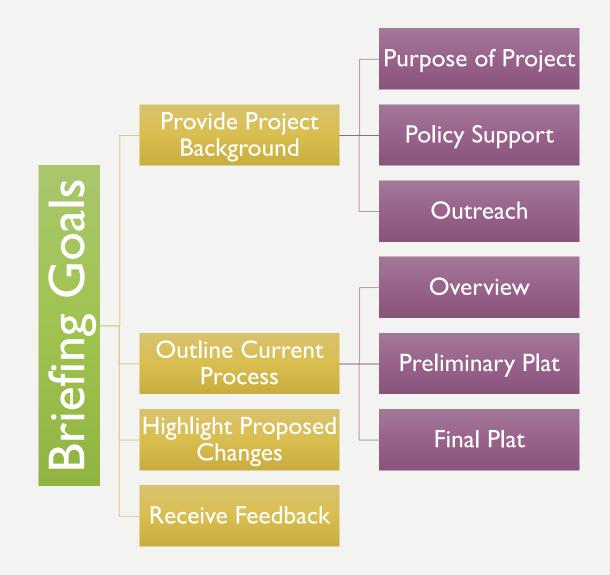
STREAMLINING THE FINAL PLAT PROCESS: COMMITTEE BRIEFING

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OVERVIEW



PURPOSE OF PROJECT

Streamline the final plat approval process by implementing Senate Bill 5674 Plat constitutes a subdivision with ten or more lots inside UGA, five or more lots outside UGA Speed up housing production Reduce housing costs Reduce risks/financial costs to homebuilders Retain public involvement in decision-making Provide notice Allow public to provide feedback Reduce administrative costs and staff resources

Free up staff for other tasks

Streamline processes

Senate Bill 5674 allows local legislative bodies to transfer final plat approval authority to "an established planning commission or agency, or to such other administrative personnel..."

POLICY SUPPORT

Economic Development Objective 2.A: "Develop and maintain a regulatory system that is fair, understandable, coordinated and timely."

Housing Goal 3: "Land use policies and regulations should contribute as little as possible to the cost of housing."

Economic Development Policy 2.A.3: "To ensure timeliness, responsiveness, and increased efficiency, the county shall develop and maintain a program of periodic review of the permitting process to eliminate unnecessary administrative procedures that do not respond to legal requirements for public review and citizen input."

OUTREACH

Public

Environmental Groups

Homebuilders

Land Use Consultants

May 9th: Notice of Project and Goals

July 7th: Notice of Committee of the Whole Briefing



CURRENT PROCESS: OVERVIEW

Preliminary Plat

 Outline approval and conditioning process for subdivision

Civil Construction

- Involves on-site and off-site improvements
- Occurs prior to and often during the final plat process

Final Plat

- Ensures consistency with approval and conditions
- Method to record map with individual lots

CURRENT PROCESS: PRELIMINARY PLAT



Administrative Determination & Recommendation



Hearing Examiner Decision

- Public notice (21-day comment period)
- Application circulated to review groups and agencies
- Environmental Review conducted
- Additional review cycles conducted as necessary to determine sufficiency of subdivision proposal

- All recommendations from agencies with an interest (e.g., Fire Marshal, Public Works, and Snohomish Health District) are obtained
- SEPA determination is issued
- Recommendation (including plat conditions) are prepared and transmitted to the Hearing Examiner

- Public hearing is scheduled
- PDS sends out combined SEPA/hearing notice
- Hearing Examiner holds a public hearing
- Hearing Examiner makes a decision and issues notice of decision

CURRENT PROCESS: FINAL PLAT



Administrative Determination & Recommendation



Council Decision

- Public notice (15-day comment period)
- Application circulated to review groups and agencies
- Compliance with survey requirements verified
- Consistency with preliminary plat approval verified

- All approvals from agencies with an interest (e.g., Fire Marshal, Public Works, and Snohomish Health District) are obtained
- Civil construction and bonding are completed
- Taxes are paid
- Final plat circulated for signatures from Public Works, Treasurer, and PDS

- Recommendation and final plat package transmitted to Executive and County Council
- PDS sends out notice to final plat commenters and issues new notice
- County Council schedules and holds public hearing
- County Council makes a decision and issues notice of decision

PROPOSED CHANGES



- Streamline the final plat approval process by:
 - Delegating administrative approval of final plat applications to PDS
 - o County Council would no longer hold public hearings for final plat approval
 - o Public hearing and approval notices would be eliminated
 - Notice of final plat application would continue (15-day public comment period)
 - Delegating administrative approval authority for four-month extensions of preliminary plats to PDS
 - Consolidating required miscellaneous approvals for final plats
 - Making minor housekeeping changes to the final plat approval procedures
- All other final plat procedures would remain that same

FEEDBACK

